

Make This Fellow Return

1 Sam 29-30

1 Sam 29:1 *Aphék-* 30 miles northwest of Jerusalem

Two armies gathered together about 40-50 miles apart.

One on plain.

One in mountains.

1 Sam 29:2 *Lords of the Philistines* Civil rulers of Philistine cities

Philistines ruled by 5 men (oligarchy).

David in front of armies of Achish

In front of him--other 4 kings/lords ...

1 Sam 29:3 Every step he takes out of will of God is a step deeper into potential tragedy and devastation.

Getz: As always when we walk out of the will of God, trouble lies ahead. It may come suddenly or gradually, but eventually it will come – and it often multiplies rapidly. How true this was is David's life.

Princes of Philistines skeptical of David.

Doubts whether David fight against family.

1 Sam 29:4 Go back to Ziklag.

God intervenes in spite of David's schemes and lies.

They remember when Jonathan attacked them

1 Sam 29:5-6 Heathen king referring to God as living God.

I like you but leaders don't

1 Sam 29:7 *Displease*: cause annoyance or vexation

Don't be surprised when lords of Philistines don't want to hang around you either!

Robert H. Roe *One of the troubles with deceit is that even when you begin to feel guilt, there is no easy way out. You find you must keep on deceiving in order to work your way out. Liars need brilliant memories. Truth you can put in the air and forget it. If it comes out partial truth, it still ends up justified as truth. But deceit, no! You have to remember all the details. Poor David is caught here. Now he has to keep on deceiving and the guilt is getting pretty heavy. He can't agree to return. He must object somewhat in order to keep his poise, if he is loyal, yet not too strongly lest Achish change his mind and keep him up front. So he gives another of his famous mean nothing answers.]*

F.W. Krummacher: David King of Israel, Kregel, p171 *It is, alas, a rare case for persons of decided and outspoken adherence to the gospel, to find favor in the eyes of the so-called gods of the earth!*

1 Sam 29:8 Play-acting on part of David.

1 Sam 29:9 Common statement of courtesy

You are a manifestation of God's wisdom and prudence.

1 Sam 29:10 Be outahere at break of dawn.

Urgency in words of Achish.

1 Sam 29:11 *Jezreel*--battle of Armageddon will be fought

God deals with David's pride.

1 Sam 30:1 *Amalekites: another of ungodly tribes of heathen.*

Dt 25:19; 1 Sam 15:2, 3

No fear of God.

1 Sam 30:2-5 David sowing what reaped.

Wanted to sell women and children as slaves

1 Sam 30:6 Maybe they were offended because of perception that David going to sell out completely to Philistines.

Sovereignty of God!

1 Sam 30:7 *Ephod* Urim and Thummim--determine will of God.

1 Sam 30:8 David, again, inquiring of Lord.

Now, in midst of crisis, he seeks LORD.

God's response to David--doesn't chide or rebuke

God answers David's first two questions

1 Sam 30:9 Powell: *This is irrefutable evidence that he cared for his men. He was no longer self-centered. Even though he was depriving himself of the services of 200 trusted men, he thought more of their welfare than he did of his own.*

1 Sam 30:10 200 men exhausted.

1 Sam 30:11 *And they found an Egyptian in the field, ...*

If he had been an Amalekite they might have sensed the need to kill him.

God intervened:

1 Sam 30:12-14 *Cherethites:* tribe of Philistines.

Not far from Hebron.

1 Sam 30:15-17 Amalekites look toward sun--blinds them.

Can't see David and men approaching.

1 Sam 30:18-20 Exodus 17:14-16 God tells Moses He totally and utterly blot out all memory of Amalek from under sun.

1 Sam 30:21-22 Notice what God calls men who are merciless.

1 Sam 30:23-27 David and men came back with enough to give everyone their own bounty plus enough to give gifts to those who had been a blessing.

Powell: *The fact that David was able to send large gifts to his friends in Judah proves that the complainers had impure motives. A captain with less grace might have been more severe in his treatment of these offenders.*

1 Sam 30:28-31 David thought of all friends in tribes of Judah & Simeon who helped him while in exile.